REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending. Claims 1, 4, and 7 have been amended with this response. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

I. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-7 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claim 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0053037 (Ginzburg et al.) in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,382,788 (Furey et al.). Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested for at least the following reason.

Claim 1 refers to a method for transmitting a MAC service data unit (MSDU) into a network system, comprising converting any received piece of frame data into a MAC protocol data unit (MPDU) and outputting the MPDU every time a piece of data frame is received, wherein for at least one of the plurality of pieces of frame data, converting beings prior to having received all of the plurality of pieces of frame data of the MSDU.

The Office Action concedes that the primary reference, Ginzburg et al., fails to teach that conversion beings prior to having received all of the plurality of pieces of the data frame, but claims that this aspect of claim 1 is taught by Furey et al. (*See, O.A. of 03/25/09*, p. 3, lns. 5-9). However, as will be more fully appreciated below, the cited art fail to teach ***converting any received piece of frame data into a MAC protocol data unit (MPDU) and outputting the MPDU every time a piece of data frame is received***.

More particularly, Furey et al. teach a method for bridging network protocols. (*See, e.g.,* abstract). The method comprises processing frames using a protocol bridge, wherein the frame is processed/translated before the entire frame is received. (*See, e.g.,* col. 16, lns. 16-21). Furey et al. specifically teach that, "[f]or frames containing an encapsulated payload… in one embodiment processing may begin ***as early as when the frame header is received."*** (*See,* col. 16, lns. 22-26)(emphasis added). Therefore, according to Furey et al. ***the frame header must be received***

prior to processing of frames containing encapsulated payloads.

In contrast, claim 1 recites a method by which ***any*** received piece of frame data of an MSDU (*e.g.,* an encapsulated payload) is converted into a MAC protocol data unit (MPDU) ***every time*** a piece of frame data is received. Therefore, ***claim 1 does not require that header information be received*** prior to conversion. For example, in one non-limiting example, the method of claim 1 allows for conversion of a piece of frame data not containing a header prior to receiving a header, while the method taught by Furey et al. requires reception of a frame header prior to processing of frames containing encapsulated payloads. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 4 relates to a network device comprising a control circuit to control operations of the network device and ***to convert any piece of frame data*** stored in a buffer into MAC protocol data units (MDPUs). As stated above, the cited art fails to teach this aspect of the present invention. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 7 relates to a device comprising a controller to convert ***any*** of the plurality of pieces of data into MAC protocol data units, the controller being configured to begin converting at least one received piece of data into a corresponding MPDU prior to having received all the plurality of pieces of data of the MSDU. As stated above, the cited art fails to teach this aspect of the present invention. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-3 depend upon claim 1 and add further limitations thereto. Claims 5-6 depend upon claim 4 and add further limitations thereto. Because the combination of Ginzburg et al. and Furey et al. does not teach the present invention of claims 1, 4, or 7, claims 2-3 and 5-6 are also not taught by the cited art. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

II. CONCLUSION

For at least the above reasons, the claims currently under consideration are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Should any fees be due as a result of the filing of this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the Deposit Account Number 50-1733, INFAP140US.

Respectfully submitted,
ESCHWEILER & ASSOCIATES, LLC

By /Thomas G. Eschweiler/
Thomas G. Eschweiler
Reg. No. 36,981

National City Bank Building
629 Euclid Avenue, Suite 1000
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
(216) 502-0600